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1. GIL ROBLES professed in mid-March 1949 to be somewhat removed from Monarchist activities and from political matters in general. Source comments that this statement seemed to be confirmed by an almost complete lack of Spanish Monarchist activity in Portugal, even since the return of Don Juan from Switzerland.

2. GIL ROBLES said that actually he had not signed the Monarchist-Socialist pact and that his statements at the time of its publication by the Socialists had been limited to asserting this fact. He added that he was now sorry not to have signed it when he conferred in London in late 1947 with Indalecio PRIETO.

3. The Pretender, according to GIL ROBLES, is not thinking of going to Spain in the near future. "FRANCO", GIL ROBLES said, "seems to want to hold on to the power, and he is very far from giving it up - a familiar phenomenon among dictators. On the other hand, Don Juan will never go to Spain to collaborate with FRANCO, for that would be suicidal and at the same time would discredit the Monarchist cause for all time, without positive results for Spain internationally. I am sure that Don Juan will not go to Spain against the counsel of his advisers as long as FRANCO is there."

4. GIL ROBLES claimed to have information through his private channels that the attitude of the Vatican was becoming increasingly hostile toward FRANCO. This hostility, he insisted, was apparent in the speech which the Pope made on the presentation at the Vatican of the credentials of the new Spanish Ambassador, Joaquin RUIZ Jimenez. The Pope's words, according to GIL ROBLES, were clearly hostile to the present situation, and the current opinion in the Vatican is that the terror and hunger prevalent in Spain are fostering the growth of Communism by driving the masses to desperation.

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